

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-28 (canceled)

29. (New) A method of forming a crushing surface of a rock crusher, the rock crusher comprising an outer container forming a concave inner crushing surface defining a vertical axis, and an inner member arranged interiorly of the inner surface, wherein material to be crushed passes downwardly between the crushing surface and the inner member, the crushing surface formed by a method comprising the steps of:

A) arranging over a concave inner mounting surface of the container a circumferentially extending wear-resistant band, the band having an inner surface extending at least partially around the circumference of the mounting surface; thereafter

B) cutting through the band to separate the concave into a plurality of circumferentially adjacent segments; and

C) leaving the segments in place on the mounting surface to define the concave inner crushing surface.

30. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein step A comprises arranging a plurality of vertically adjacent bands over the mounting surface, and step B comprises cutting through each band.

31. (New) The method according to claim 30 wherein each band extends less than the entire circumference of the mounting surface, and further including the step of arranging over the mounting surface a plurality of circumferentially adjacent bands, and step B comprises cutting through each of the bands.

32. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein each band extends less than the entire circumference of the mounting surface, and further including the step of arranging over the mounting surface a plurality of circumferentially adjacent bands, and step B comprises cutting through each of the bands.

33. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein the band includes at least one portion of reduced thickness, wherein the cutting of step B is performed through the reduced thickness portion.

34. (New) The method according to claim 33 wherein the portion of reduced thickness is formed by a groove disposed in an outer surface of the band.

35. (New) The method according to claim 33 wherein is frusto-conical, the portion of reduced thickness being formed by a groove disposed in the inner surface of the band, the inner surface of the band comprising frusto-conical surface portions spaced apart by the groove.

36. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein the band forms an arc of 360 degrees.

37. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein the band forms an arc of at least 180 degrees.

38. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein the band forms an arc of at least 90 degrees.

39. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein step B comprises cutting through the band at least two times to separate the band into at least three segments.

40. (New) The method according to claim 29 wherein the mounting surface is of frusto-conical shape, and the band is of correspondingly frusto-conical shape.

41. (New) A method of forming a crushing surface of a rock crusher, the rock crusher comprising an outer container forming a concave frusto conical inner crushing surface defining a vertical axis, and an inner member arranged interiorly of

the inner surface and including a convex crushing surface facing the inner surface to form therebetween an annular gap which becomes narrower toward a bottom end of the gap, wherein material to be crushed passes downwardly within the gap, wherein the convex crushing surface is of convex curvature as viewed in a direction parallel to the vertical axis and extends substantially 360 degrees, the crushing surface formed by arranging over a concave inner frusto-conical mounting surface of the container a circumferentially extending wear-resistant band, the band including: a concave frusto-conical inner surface extending at least partially around the circumference of the mounting surface, a convex frusto-conical outer surface facing the mounting surface, and a groove formed in one of the inner and outer surfaces of the band and extending toward, and stopping short of, the other of the inner and outer surfaces of the band, wherein the one surface includes frusto-conical surface segments separated by the groove.

42. (New) A wear resistant band adapted to be mounted on an inner mounting surface of a rock crusher, the band comprising a frusto-conical body forming an arc of at least 90 degrees and including a concave frusto-conical inner surface and a convex frusto-conical outer surface, a distance from the inner surface to the outer surface defining a thickness of the band, one of the inner and outer surfaces including a groove extending toward the other of the inner and outer surfaces and stopping short of such other surface to form a portion of reduced thickness in the body, wherein the one surface includes frusto-conical surface segments separated by the groove.

43. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the groove is disposed in the outer surface.

44. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the groove is disposed in the inner surface.

45. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the band forms an arc of at least 180 degrees.

46. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the band forms an arc of 360 degrees.

47. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the band comprises a ceramic material.

48. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the band comprises iron.

49. (New) The wear-resistant band according to claim 42 wherein the band includes an additional groove disposed in the one surface.

50. (New) A wear resistant band adapted to be mounted on an inner mounting surface of a rock crusher, the band comprising a curvilinear body forming an arc of at least 90 degrees and including a concave inner surface and a convex

outer surface, a distance from the inner surface to the outer surface defining a thickness of the band, the outer surface including a groove extending toward the inner surface and stopping short of the inner surface to form a portion of reduced thickness in the body.